



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources
Doug Sutherland - Commissioner of Public Lands

Surface Mine Reclamation Award Nomination Form

(Please print or type the information. Nominations must be received by October 1st of each year. See attached sheet for more information.)

Please check the category for which you wish to nominate the site:

- ☐ Best Reclamation Work for a Small Private Operator (less than 16 acres)
- ☐ Best Reclamation Work for a Large Private Operator (16 acres or more)
- ☐ Best Reclamation Work for a Public Service Operator
- ☐ Best Reclamation Plan Design

Organization, business, or person nominated: _____

Name of site: _____

Location: _____
County and Township / Range / Section

DNR Reclamation Permit Number (if applicable): _____

Description of reclamation: *(You may attach a separate sheet.)*

Note: The surface mine proposed for a reclamation award must be compliant with all local and state permits. The permit holder must also be in compliance with all other Surface Mine Reclamation Permits they hold in the state of Washington. You should provide at least 12 still images, clearly showing the mine site before and after reclamation.

Presentation material included with nomination. Indicate how many images are provided for each of the following types: Digital (JPEG) _____ 35mm slide _____ Photos _____ Video _____

All presentation material becomes the property of the Department of Natural Resources.

Name of person making nomination: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Your address: _____

City/State/Zip + extension: _____

Mail this nomination form to: Chris Johnson
Surface Mine Reclamation Program
P.O. Box 47007
Olympia, WA 98504-7007

Surface Mine Reclamation Award Nomination



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The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has established annual awards to recognize outstanding reclamation of surface mines. These awards honor mine operators and reclamation plan designers who contribute to surface mine reclamation in an exemplary manner. The awards also recognize reclamation efforts on mine sites exempt from the Surface Mine Reclamation Act [RCW 78.44] because of size or because the site was abandoned by earlier mine operators prior to 1971.

Criteria for evaluating entrants are described by award category (see *The Award Process* description on this page). If no mine reclamation has occurred that meets the stringent criteria of a category, no award may be granted for that year.

Nominations for awards can be made by the public, permit holders, DNR, or other agencies. Nominations received by October 1st of each year will be eligible for that year's award certificate.

Recognition for Reclamation Award

To receive this award, an operator or reclamation plan designer must meet or exceed DNR requirements for an approved reclamation plan. Exemplary reclamation may have the following attributes:

- ❑ Demonstrate innovation or creativity in reclamation, such as creating unique wetlands or enhancement of wildlife and fish habitat or topographic elements.
- ❑ Include voluntary reclamation of mined land that is exempt from reclamation under the Act.
- ❑ Use native plant species in revegetation.
- ❑ Use innovative research and approaches to reclamation that can be applied at other mines.
- ❑ Show attention to water quality and erosion prevention.
- ❑ Display orderly segmental mine development resulting in high-quality reclamation.
- ❑ Demonstrate a consistent long-term commitment to reclamation.

The Award Process

Annual awards for outstanding reclamation are made in the following categories:

- Reclamation work performed by a small private operator (less than 16 acres)
- Reclamation work performed by a large private operator (16 acres or more)
- Reclamation work performed by a public service operator
- Best permit application and reclamation plan approved by DNR

DNR surface mine reclamationists will present the candidates to a panel of judges that includes representatives from DNR, other state environmental agencies, the mining industry, and environmental interest groups. Because the judges may not have opportunities to visit the nominated mine site, photos, 35-mm slides, unaltered digital images (JPEG), or videos are needed to clearly show conditions before, during, and after reclamation. At least twelve color images are preferred.

A written description should also be included, qualifying why the nominee's reclamation work or plan should be awarded. Written descriptions of site reclamation will help the panel reach their decision and may include the history of reclamation, planned development, partnerships made with neighbors, and direct benefits to the immediate environment, as well as specific information about water control, sloping, topsoil handling, re-vegetation, and other interesting aspects of the reclamation.

Winners will receive an award certificate and public recognition from the DNR. Nominations should be made on the Surface Mine Reclamation Award Nomination Form, which accompanies this sheet. Please feel free to copy this form.